

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for finding claims 14, 15, and 21 allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 13 has been canceled. New claim 22 has been introduced. Support for claim 22 can be found on page 6, second full paragraph of the Specification as originally filed. No new matter has been introduced. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration of the present patent application is respectfully requested.

The limitations of claim 21 have been incorporated into claims 1 and 2. Further claims 3 to 12 are dependent from claims 1 and 2 and therefore include the weight ratios.

Claim 14 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

Claim 21 has been amended to read "A medicament according to claim 1, wherein said weight ratio of (A) to (B) is from 1:5 to 1:50." and new claim 22 reads "A medicament according to claim 2, wherein said weight ratio of (A) to (B) is from 1:5 to 1:50.". The ratios recited in claims 21 and 22 are supported by page 6, second full paragraph, third line of the Specification, and are within the scope of the ratio of previous claim 21 which the Examiner found allowable.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-13, and 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Briggner et al. (US Patent 5,874,063) in view of Gennaro et al. (Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences, 1990, 18th edition, page 1699-1701, and 1706-1707), O'Connor (Pulmonary & Therapeutics, 1988; 11:397-399), Sequeira et al. (US Patent 5,837,699), and Sequeira '393 (WO95/20393). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants have amended claims 1-12, 14-21 to incorporate the limitations of the claims found allowable by the Examiner as discussed above and respectfully state that the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 1-13, and 16-20 is moot.

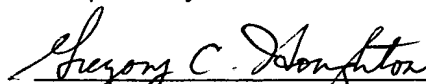
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn with respect to claims 1-13, and 16-20.

In view of the remarks and the amendments, further and favorable consideration of the present application and the allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested. The Examiner is also invited to contact the undersigned should the Examiner believe that such contact would expedite prosecution of the present application.

Novartis
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza, Building 430
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080
(862) 778-2614

Date: 1/26/05

Respectfully submitted,



Gregory C. Houghton
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 47,666